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TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

J. E. Graf, entomologist in charge, field control, Mexican bean beetle, has just returned to Birmingham, Ala., after a somewhat extended trip in New Mexico and Colorado. Much of the time was spent in the Estancia Valley in the vicinity of Mountain Air, N. Mex., where interesting observations on the hibernation of the Mexican bean beetle in its western habitat were made. Hibernating individuals were found several miles from any previous bean plantings and high in the hills in partially wooded sections of the valley. It is thus apparent that the hibernation in woodlands is characteristic of the beetle, the same tendency having been shown in Alabama. The observations made further tend to explain the close adherence of the beetle to the Rocky Mountain foothills and its failure to extend eastward as has the Colorado potato beetle through plantings of beans on the plains. Evidently a certain amount of woodland is necessary to provide suitable hibernation quarters and the beetles have failed to hibernate successfully when extending their range eastward, being thus confined to regions where favorable quarters were reached. In the East, which is comparatively heavily wooded, no limitation of this nature will prevail and the beetle will probably be able to extend its range over the entire territory east of the Mississippi River.

E. G. Smyth, formerly chief entomologist of Porto Rico, and connected with this Bureau as entomological assistant from 1908 to 1913, as extension entomologist from 1917 to 1918, and as collaborator during 1921, has been appointed as special field agent to undertake a trip to southern Mexico with the hope of discovering parasites of the Mexican bean beetle suitable for importation into the United States. Mr. Smyth will proceed by way of Birmingham, where he will stop over for consultation with Bureau employees, and thence to Mexico by rail, where six months will be spent in investigations of the Mexican bean beetle and related types with particular reference to parasites and factors affecting the economic importance of this pest in its native habitat.

N. F. Howard, specialist in charge, research, Mexican bean beetle investigations, Birmingham, Ala., reports that beetles deposited eggs in hibernation cages at Birmingham, Ala., and Thomasville, Ga., on March 14. The beetles emerged from the hibernation cages at these places on April 17 in considerable numbers.

W. M. Mingee, field assistant in insect control, employed by this branch since 1919 and stationed at Ocean Springs, Miss., has resigned to engage in private business.

STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist in Charge

Maurice E. Phillips, who graduated from the University of West Virginia in June, 1920, and was recently granted his M. S. degree from Cornell, was appointed junior entomologist effective April 17. After some days in Washington, Mr. Phillips left for California, where he will undertake an investigation of dried fruits and vegetables, with headquarters at Fresno.

In the April number of the California Monthly Bulletin there appears an article on "Field Control of Common Bean Weevils" by A. O. Larson. At the request of the California Bean Growers' Association, Mr. Larson has prepared several short articles for publication in their trade journal.

Richard T. Cotton has recently returned from a trip of investigation including New Orleans, La., and Chattanooga, Tenn.

The National Provisioner has accepted for publication a short article on the ham skipper, Plophila casei, by Perez Simmons. The article contains new data on the biology of this species.

Two publications from this office appearing during April are Department Bulletin 1051, "Red Cedar Chests as Protectors Against Moth Damage," and Farmers' Bulletin 1260, "Stored-Grain Pests."

Dr. Back and Mr. Cotton went to Baltimore on April 25 to investigate an unusual outbreak of Tenebroides mauritanicus.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge

W. R. Walton has returned from a trip to North Dakota and Montana, which was made in connection with the grasshopper investigations. While in North Dakota, Mr. Walton attended a conference of Canadian and American entomologists, held April 12 and 13 at Minot, where a full discussion of the international phases of the investigations of the pale western cutworm, grasshopper problems, and the western wheat-stem sawfly was had. As a result of this conference, it was decided to conduct a series of experiments, both in Canada and the United States, on a uniform basis, so as to render the results easily comparable. It was also decided to construct an international map, including in this several of the northwestern States in the United States as well as those Canadian provinces which are most seriously involved in grasshopper outbreaks. The purpose of the map is to record

2008

and visualize grasshopper conditions in a large, regional way and to form a basis for annual record of such conditions from year to year. Those attending the conference were: Norman Criddle and A. V. Mitchener of Manitoba, H. L. Seamans of Alberta; A. L. Strand, representing Montana; Prof. A. G. Ruggles, representing Minnesota; Prof. R. L. Webster of North Dakota; and W. R. Walton, Stewart Lockwood, Alfred Eastgate, and C. N. Ainslie, of the Bureau of Entomology. It was decided to attempt to hold a similar conference in Winnipeg about the same time next year, as the results of the conference were considered to be of the utmost value.

FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge

H. A. Jaynes, a graduate of the Connecticut Agricultural College, has been appointed junior entomologist and assigned to duty at Riverton, N. J., in connection with the Japanese beetle project.

J. A. Harris, a graduate of the Mississippi Agricultural College, has been appointed field assistant and assigned to duty at Fort Valley, Ga., in connection with investigations of the plum curculio and other peach insects.

H. H. Link, formerly employed in the Bureau of Entomology, has been appointed field assistant and assigned to duty in connection with citrus fruit insect investigations at Orlando, Fla.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

Bolsche, Wilhelm. Der stammbaum der insekten... 2 aufl. 92 p., illus. Stuttgart, Kosmos Gesellschaft der Naturfreunde, 1917.

Comstock, J. A. A giant palm-boring beetle, *Dinapate wrightii*. Bul. Southern California Acad. Sci., Los Angeles, v. 21, pt. 1, p. 5-17, illus. March, 1922. Bibliography, p. 17.

Hempel, Adolph. Algumas especies novas de hemipteros da familia Aleyrodidae, sub-familia Aleyrodinae. 10 p. Sao Paulo, Imprensa methodista, March 15, 1922. (Notas preliminares editadas pela redacao da Revista de Museu Paulista, v. 2, fasc. 1.)

- Howard, L. O. A fifty year sketch history of medical entomology and its relation to public health. (In A half century of public health, Jubilee Historical Volume of the American Public Health Association in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary celebration of its foundation, New York City, November 14-18, 1921. Edited by Mazyck P. Ravenel, 1921, p. 412-438.
- Johnston, T. H., and Bancroft, M. J. Notes on the chalcid parasites of muscoid flies in Australia. Proc. Royal Soc. of Queensland, v. 32, p. 19-88, illus. January 20, 1921. Literature, p. 87-88.
- Mocre, William. South African insect pests (and other external pests) of man and domesticated animals, a handbook of ready reference. Ed. 1. 139 p., illus. Johannesburg, The Horticultural Publishing Co., 1912.
- Moreira, Carlos. Entomologia agricola brasileira. 182 p., illus. Rio de Janeiro, Imprensa nacional, 1921. (Ministerio da agricultura, industria e commercio. Instituto biologico de defesa agricola, Boletim no. 1.)
- Nunez, T. M. Insectos venezolanos transmisores de enfermedades; trabajo de contribucion al tercer Congreso Venezolano de medicina... Caracas, Litografia del comercio [1921]. 54 p., double col. pl.
- Sen, S. K. ...Life histories of Indian insects. Diptera: Sphryacephala hearseiana Westw.... 33-38 p., pl. IV-V. Calcutta, Printed and pub. for the Imperial Department of Agriculture in India by Thacker, Spink & Co.; London, W. Thacker & Co. [1921]. (India Dept. Agr. Memoirs. Ent. series, v.7, no. 6.)
- Swenk, M. H. Insect pests of stored grain and their control. Nebraska Univ. Agr. Exp. Sta. Circ. 15. February, 1922.
- Vinal, S. C., and Allen, R. H. Insect enemies of vegetable crops. 27 p. Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co., January, 1922. (Mass. Dept. Agr., Dept. Bul. 31.)
- Wohlbach, S. M. The etiology and pathology of typhus, being the main report of the Typhus research commission of the League of Red Cross societies to Poland... 222 p., illus. Cambridge, Mass., published by the League of Red Cross societies at the Harvard University Press, 1922. Bibliography, p. 203-209.

